**TO: Corporation for National & community Service**

**FROM: Laurie May, Director**

**AmeriCorps-Service to New Scholars**

**RE: 2017 Excellence in AmeriCorps Programing & Service Award nominee**



**I would like to take this time and nominate a AmeriCorps Alumni for the 2017 Excellence in AmeriCorps Programming & Service Award, Floyd Jourdain. I have been involved in AmeriCorps for over 10 years here in Red Lake Minnesota. I had the honor to work with Floyd, during his service Floyd went over and beyond his commitment to service. This member provided his service during the program years of 2001-2002. During his term of service he provided service to the Boys & Girls Club and St. Mary’s Mission School. Floyd continues to mentor youth in Red Lake. Chemical Health Issues is a big problem all over indian country. Floyd participates in the annual Spiritual Run, which starts at Red Lake, Minnesota and completes at Sawyer Minnesota to begin the Sobriety Pow wow. Floyd is an avid language and cultural learner. He attends language tables and ceremonies where people of all ages participate. Floyd continued his commitment to service by volunteering at local community events and service projects on Red Lake Reservation. Floyd also continued his education with the scholarships he received from AmeriCorps. Floyd also ran for office to become the next tribal chairman of Red Lake Nation. So for his second attempt of running for office he did win and served 2 terms as Tribal Chairman. He was also the youngest Red Lake Tribal Chairman in the history of Red Lake!**

**The drum, the heartbeat of Native nations, restored Floyd Jourdain as a young man 30 years ago when he sought sobriety. It carried him through his 10 years as tribal chairman of Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians. Now he will explore how the drum can teach and promote healing and unity throughout Indian Country. With his fellowship Floyd will complete his Bachelor’s degree focusing on emerging research that shows how drumming can addresss the challenges of addiction while strengthening culture identity in Native Communities.**